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FRANK A. MUNSEY

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FORMER SENATOR PLATT AND HIS LEADERSHIP.

Former Senator Thomas Collier Platt of New York is dead. His death marks the passing of one of the most remarkable figures which American political life has furnished. While it has not been long since he retired from the Senate, it has been a number of years since he dominated Republican politics in New York State. Many younger men do not appreciate how great was the power he wielded in his prime. Senator Depew, speaking of his late colleague, summed up Senator Platt's effectiveness as a boss by saying that his leadership of the Republican party in New York was an unbroken success, and that no other man ever had so firm a hold upon his party.

Those persons who think of Senator Platt as he was often seen in recent years about the corridors of the Capitol, a tottering and feeble old invalid, wracked and wrenched by disease, do not know the man who has just died. In his best days he had a mind as keen as a knife, he knew men, was far-seeing, adroit, relentless, and of no mean order of intellectual accomplishment.

Mr. Platt as a national figure was known largely, though not by any means entirely, through his resignation from the United States Senate with Roscoe Conkling, when he earned the sobriquet of "Me Too" Platt, and by his success in inducing Theodore Roosevelt, to run in second place on the ticket with McKinley. Platt intended to shelve Roosevelt. Fate willed otherwise, and it was the irony of fortune that in a few years after the nomination Roosevelt was dominating the politics of New York State and Platt was reduced to a mere shadow of his one-time power. The consequences of Platt's persuasion of Roosevelt at the Philadelphia convention of 1900 cannot yet be estimated.

Senator Platt was a machine politician of the old order. He was a graduate of the Thurlow Weed school of politics. He was a boss, not a statesman. He did nothing to elevate politics, save as he perceived that it was necessary to get votes and retain power. Fortunately, the public today is demanding higher standards of its party leaders, and the party boss is growing less and less in evidence as a higher intelligence spreads among the voters. But for all this there was much to admire in the strong will, the incisive mind, the cool nerve, and the capacity for mastery of men which belonged to Thomas Collier Platt.

INSURGENTS NEED EXPECT NO ASSISTANCE.

The Republican Congressional committee is ready for the campaign. Chairman McKinley and his aides have evolved their plans and submitted them to the President, who has approved them.

Strict regularity is to be the order of the day. The insurgents are to get little aid and comfort. Indeed, they will meet with opposition from the Republican side. The Congressional committee disclaims any purpose to fight insurgents at the polls, but the fact remains that in one way and another the insurgents are to be given a wet blanket. President Taft is expected at any early date to make one or more speeches in which he will advocate the way of strict party regularity and will strike at the insurgents.

Literature will be distributed widely. It will consist in large part of such speeches as the one made by the President at Winona, in which he said the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill is the "best tariff law" ever passed by Congress. The Kansas City speech of Speaker Cannon, in which Cannonism was defended, will be spread broadcast. Other speeches of like tenor will be disseminated. It is the purpose to plaster the Middle West with such literature in the hope of quelling the rising tide of progressive or insurgent Republicanism.

All this means that the men who regard themselves as the leaders of the Republican party have set their faces like flint against the demands of a large and growing section of that party. He would be a seer who could look into the future and predict the result of such a policy. It may be doubted if the country has been confronted with such a political crisis as will be brought about by this policy of unyielding since the days of the '60's, when the old Whig party, unable to rise to a great national situation, went

to pieces. Those who imagine that the insurgent or progressive element in the Republican party is going to be whipped into line do not understand the temper of the men composing that element.

HOW WADE ELLIS CAN MAKE GOOD ON HIS OHIO JOB.

And still the mystery grows, taking second place only to the cause of the high cost of living—who appointed Wade Ellis manager, reorganizer, receiver, harmonizer, de-harmonizer, or whatever may be this newly assumed function of his toward the Republican party of Ohio?

President Taft has said he didn't do it. Certain Republicans about the city of Cincinnati who heretofore have lived and moved and had their being under the impression that they themselves knew a thing or two about who were the real powers and potentates in Ohio politics, say they had nothing to do with it. Lastly comes a pronouncement from Columbus that the manager, reorganizer, etc., appointed himself.

And yet if Mr. Ellis would just come across with a real, live, aggressive, and go-in-to-win candidate for governor, there would be little further question of his credentials.

James Rudolph Garfield has been spoken of, but it is not clear who did the speaking. And he is a candidate only because nobody else seems willing to make the sacrifice for the good of the party.

What the Ohio Republicans want and sorely need is a sure-enough candidate who really intends to unhorse the big knight at Columbus.

Let Mr. Ellis provide him, and then his managerial function, however it may have originated, will not be a joke.

TAKES MORE THAN CLOTHES TO MAKE A "LADY."

If clothes do not make the man, they make the woman, according to Mrs. Alma Webster Powell, a wealthy woman of New York, who evidently aspires to put into practical effect some of the doctrines of Mr. Thomas Carlyle's friend, Prof. Teufelsdröckh. "Dress the working girl up in fine clothes," says she, "and she looks as well as the woman of society. Put the Four Hundred in working clothes and see how common and ordinary they look."

Mrs. Powell has made a practical demonstration of her theory. She dressed up several working girls and took them to a fashionable ball, and she announces that they could not be told from the other guests. Whether mistaking the working girls for the other guests is a compliment to the working girls or to the other guests depends.

But what we note particularly about the ingenious social experimentalist is that, while unmistakably a true disciple of Mr. Carlyle's Professor of Things in General, her method appears to be just the opposite. Mrs. Powell proposed to show the equality of society by putting on more clothes—that is, if society women really do put on more, which we admit has been questioned in sundry places—while Prof. Teufelsdröckh proposed quite another and—well, without specifying, a more shocking thing. He was talking about men, though.

"Dukes, grandees, bishops, generals, anointed presence itself, every mother's son of them, stand straddling there, not a shirt on them."

That was what Mr. Carlyle's fictitious professor proposed, and he believed that for the life of you you could not tell them apart.

Mrs. Powell's experiment is interesting, of course, as was Teufelsdröckh's proposal. But both are based upon a wrong theory, so far at least as this generation is concerned. Social distinctions have got quite beyond the point of clothes, and social excellence, as well as real worth, has got quite beyond the mere question of belonging to the "Four Hundred," the "Smart Set," or any other kind of set.

PUBLICITY FOR CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

Only eight months remain before the Congressional election, and the campaign may now be regarded as under way. Many of the members find it difficult to keep one eye on legislation and the other on their fences at home.

At this juncture Perry Belmont comes forward with an urgent demand that the party in power redeem its pledges to enact a law providing for publicity of campaign contributions. He points out that the President earnestly advocated such a measure in his message to Congress last December, and that the McCall bill making the necessary provisions has been in Congress nearly a year. A similar measure, after meeting the approval of Democrats and Republicans, was amended to death in the previous Congress by Mr. Crumpacker, who wanted to incorporate with it a reduction of representation in some of the States, and Mr. Belmont fears that a similar fate will meet the bill now pending.

The wisdom of requiring Congressional campaign committees to make a statement of the amount of money contributed to the campaign and the nature and amount of the expenses incurred cannot be questioned by any man who sincerely believes in the purity of the ballot. Publicity of campaign contributions is one of the same and wholesome safeguards of the franchise.

The present Congress has much to do if it is to redeem the party pledges.

but in view of the fact that the Congressional campaign is becoming more active every day and an honest verdict from the people on the policies and past performances of that party is of the highest importance, the timely suggestion of Mr. Belmont deserves prompt attention.

The Wisconsin authorities who objected to the lunatics in the asylum being provided with \$4 corsets probably think it's all right for the people at large who are crazy enough to pay \$15 for the same articles.

If the President and Governor Hughes, in their speeches on the cure of tuberculosis, can drop a few hints on how to prevent the disintegration of their party in New York, they will accomplish much.

The supreme court of the State of Georgia has established the legal right of a woman to change her mind. The court, on second thought, often feels that it would like to do the same thing.

Lady Laurier, of Canada, says the height of ambition in this democratic Republic is to buy a title. Some titles, such as lieutenant colonel of the militia, for instance, are cheap enough.

Since the Chinese Tong leaders have declared that their theater is the only place where they will not commit murder, they must have better actors than their friends, the Americans.

The controversy as to whether Chicago or New York men are the more polite is raging without any undue regard to the handy book of etiquette.

Lina Cameron, the famous woman detective, who is to marry a millionaire, must have been pretty good at following up the scents.

If Philadelphia put in as much time stopping the strike as she does guarding property, there might be some relief in sight.

It is surprising that anybody thought Mr. Harahan would resign. The people who have those names die, but they never resign.

It is safe to assume that the prohibition paper which William J. Bryan will establish in Nebraska will be a dry affair.

Since Walter Wellman is not using a balloon as his means of conveyance to meet Colonel Roosevelt, he may get there.

When Senator Aldrich said the railroad "retained him," he might have added that the public is now about to detain him.

The bank clerk who was getting \$12 a week and paying his chauffeur \$3 a week must have found a money tree.

Just because yesterday was a fine Sunday, a lot of people celebrated it by getting into automobile accidents.

The disclosures at Albany have proved that politics is a money-making game unless you are discovered.

The Ohio floods are a direct opposite of the ebullience of interest in the State's Republican party.

One good sign of spring is that the fellows are saving up for the season baseball tickets.

Some American cities find it as hard to get pure water as it is to get pure whisky.

The girls do not seem to observe Lent by giving up F street.

At least Philadelphia may now be said to be awake.

Vesuvius and Bryan are again in eruption.

Mr. Cudahy now appears as the grim joker.

The mothball season is on.

Cost of Living Comment

What goes up must come down—even high prices.—St. Louis Star.

In Massachusetts they're thinking of solving the problem of the high cost of living by eating the waxy moth—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Many a family is more disturbed about the cost of the milk on the table than the gasoline in the automobile. And some croakers have waited patiently for the motor car to fade away as a fad!—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mme. Thebes, the French seeress, predicts that the United States and that Americans will look back upon it with horror. That may be the recollection they will have of the month when they had no meat on the table.—St. Louis Star.

WHY HE WENT AWAY.
Smith left his old position
For his health.
Went on a foreign mission
For his health.
The bank is closed, they say,
And his debts it cannot pay;
But only went away
For his health.

Jones left us in a hurry
For his health.
Poor man began to worry
For his health.
His wedding has been queer
With the widow, it is feared,
But of course he disappeared
For his health.

To Rene they have vanished
For their health.
To Chlie they are banished
For their health.
We hope they'll all get well
And their maladies dispel
In the land where now they dwell
For their health.
—New York Evening Sun.

What's on the Program Tonight in Washington

Lecture by B. F. Harrah, law clerk in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, before the Association of American Government Accountants, Public Library, 3 p. m.

Ladies' night by the Musurgia Club at the Postoffice Building, Park road.

Theaters.
National—"The Silver Star," 8:15 p. m.
Belasco—"Just One of the Boys," 8:30 p. m.
Columbia—"The American Idea," 8:15 p. m.
Classe—"Polite vaudeville," 8:15 p. m.
Casino—"Continous vaudeville."
Academy—"McFadden's Flats," 8:15 p. m.
Lyceum—"Tom Mix" Show, 8:15 p. m.
Gayety—"Fred Irwin's Show," 8:15 p. m.
Arcade—"Midway and other attractions." Vaudeville and motion pictures, 7 to 11 p. m.

In the Mail Bag

The Times will accept for publication in its Mail Bag columns, short, vigorous letters on questions of public interest. It cannot undertake to publish letters exceeding 250 words, and reserves the right rigidly to condense communications which are of greater length. Letters should be written on one side of the paper only, and must contain the name and address of the writer, but these will not be published if request to that effect is made.

OBJECTS TO CUTTING TREES FROM STREET

To the Editor of The Washington Times:

With the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, the Citizens' Association, other civic bodies pushing the beautification of Washington, the Capital of the Nation with all this—we let some one or two or three, or some other number of persons pass an ordinance to vandalize the city.

We proceed to detract from one of the most beautiful boulevards of the city by taking up the trees that line the parking of Pennsylvania avenue, east of the Capitol.

These are decorations that absolutely cannot be computed in dollars and cents. They could not be replaced in the present generation at the cost of \$2,500,000, and let some wise interpretation of some official of some department to allow such a thing as is being done at the present is something I cannot comprehend.

It is almost impossible to conceive that the citizens of this District would, under ordinary conditions, for a moment tolerate such a suggestion from a citizen of this nation, and more particularly to sanction such a movement.

I do not think that the English language contains sufficient adjectives to describe a man who would be guilty of such vandalism. I believe that it would be a lasting monument to our prosperity if we would at once obtain a restraining order, if such a paper is procurable, to prevent further depredations along this line.

DAVID JAMES WILSON,
Randie Highlands, D. C.

Capital Tales

Signs of spring have appeared about the Capitol.

Just as the introduction of Senate lemonade is an unfailing sign of summer, so there are signs that spring is close at hand. Among them are these:

The first robin has appeared hopping about the Capitol grounds. It is true some of the ornithologists assert that the robin is not as reliable as a weather forecaster and that the pheasant is the only reliable bird when it comes to heralding the approach of spring. Nevertheless the appearance of the robin has cheered everyone up.

Secretary of the Senate Bennett has laid aside his overcoat and is getting ready to appear in a stunning spring suit, according to reports.

Senator "Bill" Stone, of Missouri, is out in the gayest of red neckties and is apparently getting ready for his new Easter raiment.

The baseball fever has caught the Senate and House, from venerable Senators down to pages. In the Senate the employees have all contributed liberally to the Senate baseball team and are expecting to win a pennant or two in the course of the season.

These are just a few of the symptoms that winter is over. In a short time, unless March proceeds to become extremely disagreeable, it is expected there will be a plethora of spring suits.

One of the unfailing signs of the time is in the fact that the distribution of campaign literature has given place to the distribution of garden seeds. In almost every office now, from Senators and Representatives down to stenographers and messengers, everyone is busy helping to send out packages of seeds, labeled "Radish," "Squash," "Nasturtium," "Begonia," and the like to friends of constituents who are concerned in seeing a growth of wise legislation.

Wilkes as Explorer.

AN INTERESTING bit of history is recalled by the bill offered by Senator Root to provide a monument at Arlington to Rear Admiral Charles Wilkes. This old sailor was probably the first American polar explorer to gain international renown and his achievement in discovering "Wilkesland" near the South Pole, stands still as an unparalleled feat.

Far back in 1838 an expedition was fitted out by the actual consisting of the brig Porpoise, two sloops, and a brig store ship, to explore the Antarctic and the southern Pacific oceans. New land was found to the northwest of the South Pole. It appears yet on all the maps as Wilkesland, but so far not one antarctic explorer has ever again been able to reach the new territory.

Then, too, it is recalled here that during the civil war it was Admiral Wilkes who sailed from America in pursuit of the Confederate clipper San Jacinto and overtaking her, took as prisoners Trent and Steidl, the Confederate envoys bound for England to open negotiations for English recognition of the Confederacy.

It is said also that previous to the war, Admiral Wilkes, Trent, and Steidl were all residents of the same block in Washington and were on exceedingly friendly terms.

DISTRICT TO BUY \$2,400 AUTOMOBILE

Bids for an automobile for the use of the Engineer Commissioner and the Assistant Engineer Commissioners will be opened at the District Building March 14. The specifications call for a five-seated passenger car, which will be used by the engineer officials in the inspection of the work throughout the city. The District appropriation bill contains an item of \$2,400 for the purchase of the car.

ASKS LIMITED DIVORCE.

Limited divorce is asked by Mrs. Fannie Toepfer, who today filed suit against Charles A. Toepfer charging him with cruelty and failure to support her. Through Attorney H. B. Moulton, the woman tells the court they were married September 29, 1908. Justice Barnard today fixed next Friday as the time for hearing.

Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand Luncheon Hosts for Mme. Thiebaut

Wife of France's Minister to Argentina Is Visiting in Capital.

Guest of Commander and Mrs. Irwin for Fortnight.



MRS. JAMES R. GARFIELD.

Miss Elkins Hostess At Informal Luncheon

Miss Katherine Elkins entertained at luncheon informally today for Miss Wendolyn Burden, of New York, who is visiting Miss Fish, daughter of Representative Hamilton Fish, of New York.

The board of trustees of the Arts and Crafts School have arranged with A. Radcliff Dugmore for a lecture to be given at the New National Theater, Thursday afternoon, March 17, at 4:30 o'clock, for the benefit of the school.

The subject of the lecture will be "Photographing Africa's Live Game on Roosevelt's Hunting Trail."

Washington Man Wins Kentucky Bride.

Mr. and Mrs. Logan Paschal Kennedy, of Louisville, Ky., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Gertrude Kennedy to Marvin Hunter McIntyre, of Washington. The wedding will take place in Louisville Tuesday evening, April 5. Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre will make their home in Washington.

Have Dinner Invitations Out.

The Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Ballinger have dinner invitations out for Friday evening, in honor of the Vice President and Mrs. Sherman.

The Secretary of War and Mrs. Dickinson, who spent the week end in New Haven, the guests of their son, Jacob McGilvick Dickinson, will return to Washington this evening.

Mrs. Robert Hinckley has issued invitations for a luncheon on Thursday, March 17.

DR. LOUIS KLOPSCH DIES IN NEW YORK

Editor of Christian Herald and Widely Known as Philanthropist.

NEW YORK, March 7.—Dr. Louis Klopsch, editor of the Christian Herald, and known the world over for his philanthropies, is dead. He was operated on at the German Hospital last Friday, and grew worse thereafter.

Dr. Klopsch was born in Germany in 1832, and had been honored by a number of rulers of foreign countries.

It has been said Dr. Klopsch died since he became proprietor of the Christian Herald in 1892 he had obtained through that organ \$3,300,000 and distributed it in international charities.

His principal work was in organizing famine relief funds for the stricken poor of Russia, India, China, and Japan, and the concentration in Cuba in 1895. For his efforts in behalf of the sufferers from famine and plague in India, King Edward VII. conferred upon him the gold Kaiser-i-Hind medal of the first class, 1901, and on May 14, 1907, the Medal of Japan sent Baron Takemon Oda as special envoy to decorate Dr. Klopsch with the Order of the Rising Sun for collecting \$250,000 through the Christian Herald for the famine sufferers in Japan. Among the royalties of Europe he was received by Queen Alexandra, the late King Christian of Denmark, the King and Queen of Sweden, and the Dowager Empress of Russia.

Dr. Klopsch was born in Germany on March 28, 1832, and came to this country as a young man. Previous to becoming proprietor of the Christian Herald he controlled the Daily Reporter.

FOUNDERS ON SHORE AFTER SAFE VOYAGE.

Sails Seas All His Life Without Mishap.

TOWANDA, Pa., March 7.—Ralph Sell, son of the late Phaeton Sell, of Shores Hill, all his life a sailor, with no accidents on sea to his credit, was shipwrecked while driving in the Bradford county hills after a return from a long, safe water voyage.

Owing to the light being put on Ardenia's cliffs, his cutter went on Snow banks, and Sells was adrift in a six-foot drift before he knew it. When the craft "went down with all on board," it turned turtle, the hull broke off and the dory was a "shore" wreck.

Reading his way to the beach, Sell pulled for the house of Mahlon Horton, where he was taken in. The wreck was towed in later.

Sell had just docked the day before in New York after an uneventful voyage on the U. S. S. scout Chester, and, thinking he could ride the white billows of Bradford Hills like the Chester did the waves, he started out without a navigation officer, but soon came to grief.

TO DI-CUSS MISSIONS.

The Missionary Society of the Churches of the Christian Denomination in the District will hold its quarterly meeting at the Vermont Avenue Christian Church tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock. Mrs. Sell, State president, will preside, and papers will be read by Mrs. Jennie M. Pickett, Mrs. Waldo, and Mrs. Ferguson. Mrs. Jefferson Middleton will act as hostess of the occasion.

The Young Lady Across the Way

The young lady across the way says she saw in the paper that there was a great deal of arbitrage business in Wall Street and wasn't it fine how our business men were working together to bring about world peace.



Mrs. Charles D. Walcott to Entertain for Mrs. Garfield.

Will Be Hostess at Small Tea This Afternoon.

Mrs. Charles D. Walcott will entertain at a small tea this afternoon at 5 o'clock in honor of Mrs. James R. Garfield, wife of the former Secretary of the Interior, who is spending a few weeks at the Capital.

Mrs. Beekman Winthrop, wife of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and Mrs. Truman H. Newberry, wife of the former Secretary of the Navy, will be vis-a-vis at the tea table.

Others assisting Mrs. Walcott will be Mrs. Henry Cleveland Perkins, Mrs. Fremont Smith, Miss Laura Merriam, Miss Chew, Miss Frances Noyes, Miss Sophy Johnston, and Miss Dorothy Gardner Williams.

Mrs. James Robert McKee, of New York, and Miss Mary Lodge McKee, will come to Washington shortly after Easter to be the guests of Mrs. Arthur Lee.

Mrs. James F. Barbour and Miss Margaret Barbour have returned from a short sojourn at Atlantic City and New York.

Mrs. A. N. Talbot, of the Connecticut, has been guest for several days. Mrs. Scoville, of New York, for whom she entertained a party at luncheon at the Chevy Chase Club yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge Jordan have as their house guest for a few days, Mrs. Tyson Elliott, of Baltimore, mother of Mrs. Jordan.

Miss Eudora Clover, the debutante daughter of Rear Admiral and Mrs. Clover, is spending a few days in New York.

Mrs. Charles B. Howry, wife of Judge Howry, Miss Howry, wife of Judge Howry, Miss Mary Davidson, of Florida, niece, is spending the spring in Washington, accompanied by a party of friends, were among those luncheon at the New Willard today.

Mrs. S. Cerr, of Pittsburg, Pa., arrived in Washington today, as the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Clarence Grossner, in the Tulane apartment.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Levi, of Rutherfordtown, N. C., and daughters, Miss Ruth and Miss Beatrice, are the guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. Bernstein.

Miss Miriam Epstein, of Frankfort, Ind., is the guest of Mrs. A. Damman, of the Natchez apartments.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Kronenberg, of Cincinnati, Ohio, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. D. Senger.

Miss Laura Adler, of Pittsburg, Pa., is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Joseph Abel, of Clifton street.

KING IS GRATEFUL FOR GIFT TO SON

Stilted Phrases Make Up Letter of Thanks for Silken Booties.

ROCKFORD, Ill., March 7.—An "Anniversary Club" of married people here celebrates each year the wedding anniversary of a couple that belong to the club. Also the members take interest in babies born to couples of exalted rank. The Queen of Spain presented her husband, King Alfonso, with a second son, Prince Jaime, on June 23, 1908. Last month the "Anniversary Club" sent his small Spanish highness a pair of baby blue silk booties.

Today the club's president received this cordial acknowledgment:

"Sr. Carlos S. Lidger, Rockford, Estado de Illinois, Estados Unidos de America:

"My Very Dear Sir and Friend: In pursuance of the command of his royal majesty, Alfonso, King of Spain, of Castile, of Navarre, of Granada, of Toledo, of Jerusalem, Archduke of Austria, Duke of Bourgoine, of Milan, Master of the Holy Torrealara, Defender of the faith, etc., etc."

"Duke of Granada, of Villahermosa, Count of Luara, Grand Marshal of Navarre, etc., etc. First Gentleman in Waiting to His Majesty, Principal Custodian of the Wardrobe."

"Desire to give you notice of the pleasure of his majesty at receiving from your hand, on behalf of yourself and your associates, the pair of soft baby slippers of his Highness Jaime, Leuitop-Isabelino-Henri-Alexandre-Albert-Alphonse-Victor Duke of Coreza. And his benign majesty has designated me to tell you that you have not forgotten that your country and our warm-hearted sovereign live today in unity."